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## Charges pending in hit-and-run

**DEATH** Charges are pending against a suspect in Sunday's fatal hit-and-run collision, according to police.

Sandra Casey, 43, was crossing 10 Avenue SW in the 1700 block near Money-Pennies Eatery and Bar at about 2 a.m. Sunday when a white sedan struck her and then fled the scene.

She was transported to hospital but later succumbed to her injuries.

The vehicle has also been located, and the investigation is continuing.

Anyone with information is asked to call police at (403) 266-1234 or Const. Greg Mercer at (403) 567-4053.

METRO EDMONTON

United States  
**Presidential Inauguration**  
• Charles Davies, page 4  
• Special coverage, pages 6, 7  
• Lawrence Martin, page 8  
• More exclusive coverage online at metronews.ca

**Health pg 12**

Estrogen in moisturizers?

**Your Money pg 10**

Words from moneywise



A woman walks past a mural of U.S. president-elect Barack Obama and Martin Luther King Jr. in Washington yesterday, which was Martin Luther King Day. Obama will be sworn in as the 44th American president today.

# New era begins in American history

Barack Obama becomes first black U.S. president today

**Redemption for America, a clean slate for the world, and the burden of the ages for Barack Obama, who assumes the presidency today with a constellation of expectations and challenges few, if any, have known before.**

Obama will be sworn in as America's 44th president at one minute before 10 a.m., and will proceed immediately to his crucial first order of business — a 17-minute address that will set

United States  
**Presidential Inauguration**

the tone for his era.

Polls suggests Obama will enter office with the wind at his back. But presidential scholars say just hours from now, he will begin to experience the rude awakening inherent to the world's most powerful position.

The inauguration is "a ritual of reaffirmation that

combines the worlds of the sacred and the profane — in other words, religion and politics," said Donald Kennon, historian with the U.S. Capitol Historical Society.

The sacred will be seen in the prayers of invocation and benediction in the ceremony. The festival continues with a luncheon with Congress and the president leading a tickertape parade.

A CNN poll yesterday showed 69 per cent of African-Americans believe an Obama

presidency means Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Dream" has come to pass — twice as many as one year ago.

The mantra of change is already evident in downtown Washington, which is teeming with people of all shapes, sizes and colours.

"This wasn't our part of town," said Celia Jones, 55, from the city's southeast. "But that was the old Washington. The new Washington is for everyone."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## Guilty pleas in Mountie slayings

**MAYERTHORPE** A gun that became part of cop-hater James Roszko's small arsenal in an ambush was wiped clean and put into a bag by two men accused of assisting him in the murder of four Mounties.

That was one piece of evidence from a court-agreed statement of facts that led to Shawn Hennessey, 29, and Dennis Cheeseman, 25, quietly admitting their part in the brutal 2005 murders, in

### Loss

in a jam-packed courtroom yesterday morning. The pair pleaded guilty to four counts of manslaughter in the deaths of the officers, who were raiding Roszko's Mayerthorpe-area marijuana grow-up on March 3, 2005, before the gunman opened fire.

The brothers-in-law were initially charged with first-degree murder after their arrests in July 2007, but agreed to plead to lesser charges. New details in the investigation were revealed yesterday. DNA evidence found in a glove on Roszko's farm after the massacre, and registry records confirmed one of the firearms used belonged to Hennessey, and the pair admitted giving Roszko a ride to his farm after the incident.

After killing the officers, Roszko turned the gun on himself. **METRO CANADA**

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A 68-year-old man was sentenced to prison yesterday for bilking 35 investors of \$615,000 in a scam over a nine-month period. The judge sentenced James Norbert Hester to three years in prison. **METRO CALGARY**

# Local



## Who is the best Momprenuer?

Southcentre Mall and Momprenuer Magazine are teaming up for a contest to find Calgary's Best Momprenuer of the Year. Interested applicants can submit an entry form explaining their product or service and how they can take it to the next level. The contest deadline is Feb. 5. For more information, visit [www.southcentremall.com](http://www.southcentremall.com). **METRO CALGARY**

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## Parents praise EMS for help with unique birth

Baby delivered in a truck on the side of road

ALICIA FOX  
for Metro Calgary



**Delivering her baby in the front of an F-150 on the side of the road is not exactly what Kelsey Brockway had in mind when she said she wanted a natural birth.**

Last Tuesday, Brockway woke her husband Scott up at 4:30 a.m. in their Airdrie home, telling him that she thought their first-born might be coming, but by the time they made it to Country Hills Boulevard, it was too late.

Scott, who was driving, found a place to pull over

**"Babies come whether you want them to or not."**

Stuart Brideaux

as he took delivery instructions from David MacGregor from 911 dispatch.

"Babies come whether you want them to or not," said Stuart Brideaux of Calgary EMS.

And Noah Scott did exactly that, coming just over two weeks early and weighing in at four lbs., 11 oz., arriving in his mother's arms at around 5:55 a.m. He was wrapped in mommy's housecoat and

extra clothes to keep warm, and EMS arrived minutes later to assume care of mother and baby.

His dad looks back on it as a cool experience, but, "At the time, I was frightened," he said. He attributed the smooth proceedings to MacGregor's help and the prompt response by EMS.

"It was definitely a good feeling at the end of the call," said MacGregor.

Though the pain was excruciating, Kelsey said it was a fairly easy delivery, and that she hopes that when they have a second child, it's a similar experience — "but in a hospital."



From left to right: Scott and Kelsey Brockway, their baby son Noah, and Calgary EMS dispatcher David MacGregor met with media yesterday. Scott delivered Noah in the front of the couple's Ford truck on Country Hills Boulevard last week, with the help of MacGregor's telephone instructions.

ROBIN KUNISKI FOR METRO CALGARY



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## Beware of lakes with unstable ice: Fire Dept.

**SAFETY** In light of the warm weather, the Calgary Fire Department is warning Calgarians that lakes, wet ponds and especially rivers have unstable ice.

Both children and adults are to stay off any areas not specifically designated as recreational and parents are asked to educate their kids on the hidden dangers.

Pet owners are also asked to use caution and instructed to call 911 if a pet should fall through the ice rather than rescue the animal themselves, as the ice that doesn't support a pet will certainly not support a human.

METRO CALGARY

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

**Video** Stephen Harper calls Obama presidency a step forward in Canada-U.S. relations at [metronews.ca/canada](http://metronews.ca/canada)

**Video** Vancouver student named first torch bearer for 2010 Games at [metronews.ca/canada](http://metronews.ca/canada)

**Blogs** Political Stripes tackles Ignatieff's mixed messages on taxes at [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

**Movies** Showtimes, trailers reviews and tickets at [metronews.ca/movies](http://metronews.ca/movies)

**Job Search** Use Metro's Workopolis search at [metronews.ca/workopolis](http://metronews.ca/workopolis)

**Play** Online games at [metronews.ca/play](http://metronews.ca/play)





**Fort Calgary to host Danish community presentation today**

History buffs can head down to Fort Calgary today at 7:10 p.m. for a presentation on Danish communities from 1903 to 1939. Free coffee will be provided and pre-registration is required. To sign up, visit [calgarycultureclub.com](http://calgarycultureclub.com) before 4 p.m. today. **METRO CALGARY**

## Man faces abduction charges

**CRIME** A 39-year-old Airdrie man has been charged in connection with the



Patrick Webb

abduction of his ex-wife. RCMP Staff Sgt. Patrick Webb said the man allegedly abducted his estranged

wife from her Airdrie home Saturday afternoon. The two were later located in a Radium, B.C., hotel.

The man, who cannot be named to protect the victim, is charged with assault with a weapon, assault causing bodily harm, choking, kidnapping, sexual assault and breach of probation.

The suspect will appear in court on Jan. 22 to face the charges at Airdrie Provincial Court.

METRO CALGARY

## Group-home report released

**WORKERS** Group home-care workers must deal with members of the same sex if the resident is known for aberrant sexual behaviour, a provincial judge recommended yesterday.

In the report, Judge Lloyd Malin also said care workers should only be assigned to clients they can physically manage and group homes must hold meetings to discuss problematic residents. The recommendations follow an inquiry into the death of an Alberta female care worker who was raped and killed by a group-home resident six years ago.

METRO CALGARY



Staff Sgt. Doug Andrus of the Southern Alberta Integrated Child Exploitation unit speaks to the media regarding the child pornography bust made in Medicine Hat on Monday.

# Child porn found in pair of arrests

JENNIFER HILLIKER  
for Metro Calgary

**Southern Alberta authorities have made arrests in two child pornography cases, one of them as a result of a drug raid on an Airdrie residence.**

Yesterday, police arrested Gregory Fritzke of Medicine Hat on charges of accessing and distributing child pornography.

Fritzke's arrest comes after a three-month investigation by the Southern Alberta Integrated Child Exploitation (ICE) unit and

police in Medicine Hat. Police say they were notified of Fritzke after a file was forwarded from the National Child Exploitation Co-ordination Centre.

"In a lot of cases like this, not only do they access and download child pornography for their own use, but they also distribute it as well," Staff Sgt. Doug Andrus of ICE said in Calgary yesterday.

RCMP also arrested 47-year-old Roy Rodney Knapp of Airdrie on Friday afternoon.

A search of his home

turned up 52 marijuana plants and 545 grams of marijuana valued at up to \$5,450.

Investigators also said they found child pornography on a computer inside the home.

According to the RCMP, Knapp previously had a licence that permitted him to grow up to 35 marijuana plants, but the licence expired Thursday.

Police will not reveal at this time whether these cases are connected.

Knapp will appear in court Feb. 19 to face charges.

## News in brief

**CRASH** A 35-year-old man was taken to hospital with serious, life-threatening injuries after being hit by a vehicle in the north-

east. Calgary EMS responded shortly after 4 p.m. yesterday to the intersection of Centre Street and 18 Ave. NE and found a

man with head and left leg injuries as a result of the collision. The incident is under investigation.

METRO CALGARY

## Volunteer firefighters seek tax compensation

ALICIA FOX  
for Metro Calgary



there should be deductions for volunteer firefighters," Burrell said.

Firefighters are hoping to receive tax-credit compensation for the hours in which they put their lives at risk to aid others.

Bruce Burrell, Calgary fire chief and chair of the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs, said volunteer firefighters rarely get any compensation at all and, in some communities, are sometimes penalized by their place of employment for leaving to attend to an emergency.

"If public safety is in fact a priority for the federal government ... then

He and others in the association are petitioning the minister of Finance to include the bill in the upcoming federal budget or pick it up at the third reading where it left off.

The bill would allow volunteers to receive \$1,000 in tax credits for up to 100 hours of service and \$2,000 for more than 200 hours.

Burrell said if nothing is done to compensate volunteer firefighters, there will eventually be crises in smaller communities that depend on them.

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A Regina man who had been working on his tan when his tanning bed burst into flames escaped without major injuries. Jason Viles was inside the tanning bed yesterday morning when he heard a pop, smelled smoke and found himself locked in the bed. He escaped by kicking out a stereo and crawling out the back. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

# Canada



## Deficit must be moderate: Iggy

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff, left, said yesterday that any deficits incurred in the upcoming budget must be temporary, but refused to put a dollar figure on what he would consider too large. Speaking after a caucus meeting yesterday, Ignatieff said Canadians are allergic to deficits and that any deficit in the budget set to be tabled Jan. 27 should be temporary, modest and moderate. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

# Economy in for bumpy ride with Obama

New U.S. president's plans to fix America's financial mess should help Canada, but it will take a while

If his recent statements are any guide, U.S. President Barack Obama will boldly confront America's economic plight in his inaugural address today. He'll describe a crisis that is the worst since the Depression and caution that a revival will be meas-

## United States Presidential Inauguration

ured in years rather than months. He'll stress the urgency of a stimulus package (roughly \$775 billion

**"Anything Obama does to stimulate the U.S. economy will be good for us, but the measures will affect us in small doses over a long period."**

US, but potentially more than \$1 trillion US) and remind people that large, complex economies don't turn on a dime.

Canadians will listen as closely as Americans, since 80 per cent of our exports, and one in five of our jobs, depend on the U.S. economy. Anything Obama does to stimulate the U.S. economy will be good for us, but the measures will affect us in small doses over a long period, and there could be complications.

Anywhere from \$270 billion US to \$310 billion US of the Obama stimulus package will come from lower taxes for individuals

(through reduced levies) and businesses (through refunds on prior years' payments). If people spend the extra cash, that will benefit Canadian exporters of everything from cars to forest products. And if businesses use their refunds to expand and hire workers, that indirectly benefits us, too.

But if individuals sock their refunds away — and recent numbers indicate Americans are scared enough that they are becoming savers once again — that money will have to be funneled through a newly risk-averse financial system before it has any effect.



And if businesses use their refunds defensively — reducing debt in order to clean up their balance sheets — their prudence will actually slow a broader recovery that would help Canada.

It's hard to see how plans to expand health and unemployment benefits or spending up to \$200 billion US helping states subsidize costs for Medicaid and education programs will do much for Canadian businesses, other than in very subtle and indirect ways. It's also an open question how much Canadians will benefit from Obama's

broad but unspecified plans for infrastructure development. Under the North American Free Trade Agreement, Canadian companies can bid on U.S. public projects and so conceivably could win a share of the \$136 billion US of projects said to be "shovel-ready."

Of course, NAFTA itself may be up for renegotiation if protectionist elements in the U.S., many of which supported Obama, get their way. Canadian officials are already concerned that increasing U.S. zeal to enforce border regulations will slow trade. Stimulus package or not, Canadians should get ready for a long and bumpy ride.

Charles Davies is a veteran business writer and editor who has worked for news organizations and publications including Business Week, Canadian Business, Report On Business magazine, Reuters, and Financial Post.

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Search called off for people missing after Costa Rica quake

Costa Rican authorities called off their search yesterday for victims of landslides from a recent deadly earthquake. Rescue teams have pulled 23 bodies from the Poas volcano region, where waves of earth buried cars and crushed homes during a 6.1 magnitude quake Jan. 8. Seven people are still missing. **REUTERS**

# World



## Church targets 'Mega brothels'

Church of England dioceses are to call for a government crackdown on human trafficking in the run-up to the London 2012 Olympics to prevent a repeat of the "mega brothels" set up in German cities for the 2006 World Cup. The church members pointed to the World Cup in Germany, where they said city officials adopted a "pragmatic" approach toward catering to the sexual desires of the estimated three million football fans who attended the tournament. **REUTERS**

# Gaza Strip left devastated

More Israeli forces left the Gaza Strip yesterday after a 22-day assault on Hamas militants, and both sides kept a ceasefire, allowing dazed Palestinians to survey the destruction and mourn their dead.

In Jabalya refugee camp, the scene of heavy fighting, not a house was unscathed. Huge piles of uncollected garbage rotted on street corners. Children scavenged for empty plastic bottles.

Israeli sources said most troops would be gone by today. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon was expected to visit the same day.

A spokesman for Hamas's armed wing vowed it would replenish its arsenal of rockets and other weapons, in defiance of any efforts to cut off smuggling routes.

Israel and Hamas sepa-



Palestinian boys stand atop an Israeli army rocket launcher left behind after Israeli forces left Beit Lahiya in the northern Gaza Strip yesterday. More Israeli forces left the Gaza Strip after a 22-day assault on Hamas militants, and both sides kept a ceasefire.

rately declared ceasefires on Sunday, with Hamas demanding an Israeli pullout within a week.

A Hamas official said 5,000 homes, 16 government buildings and 20 mosques were destroyed

and 20,000 houses damaged. Israel has said militants used mosques as weapons depots. **REUTERS**

# Murdered Chechen girl's lawyer killed in Moscow

**MOSCOW** A prominent lawyer who had opposed the early release of a Russian army officer convicted of murdering a Chechen girl was shot dead yesterday not far from the Kremlin, prosecutors said.

Stanislav Markelov acted for the family of 18-year-old Elza Kungayeva, whose murder in 2000 became a symbol of human-rights abuses in the region.

Markelov, 34, had led at-

tempts to block the early release of Russian Col. Yuri Budanov, who was convicted of her murder.

Markelov's body was found with several gunshot wounds on a busy street, prosecutors said. Kungayeva's murder in 2000 provoked a storm of protest in Chechnya. Her family said she had been raped and murdered in a drunken rampage by Russian troops. **REUTERS**

# Recession raises health risks: WHO

**HEALTH** Global recession may lead governments to reduce investment in basic health care, putting at risk the lives of vulnerable mothers and babies, the World Health Organization (WHO) said yesterday.

WHO director-general Margaret Chan said the

world's economic woes could set back public health campaigns meant to eliminate diseases and tackle root causes of poverty.

The crisis will also make people use public health services instead of private ones, adding to demands on public services. **REUTERS**







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Sites like CNN.com and other major television networks are planning to offer streaming Internet video of the event, but warn that users could experience slower-than-normal responses from their websites because of increased traffic. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Presidential

## Inauguration



## Lincoln Bible

The same Bible used by Abraham Lincoln, left, will be used by Barack Obama as he is sworn in by Supreme Court Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

### • Morning worship service

Like every U.S. president-elect since Franklin D. Roosevelt, Barack Obama will tip off Inauguration Day with a morning worship service — most likely a private affair for him and his family and friends — at a church in D.C.

### • Procession to the Capitol

U.S. President George W. Bush and his wife Laura Bush will join Obama and his wife, Michelle, for the motorcade procession to the Capitol — and undoubtedly fantastic conversation.

### • Vice-president's swearing-in

Since he'll fade into the background the second the new administration



## THE DAY'S EVENTS

takes its place, vice-president-elect Joe Biden gets the first turn being sworn into office on the steps of the Capitol.

### • President's swearing-in, inaugural address

The main event is next up with Obama swearing the oath of office, then addressing

the country and affirming for one last time all the promises he's made.

### • Departure of the outgoing president

In the second-most feel-good event of the day, Obama will escort Bush to his departure plane where Bush will take his final leave from D.C. And then we can all exhale.



### • Inaugural parade

The city will go crazy as bands, floats and military personnel celebrate down Pennsylvania Avenue while Obama will watch from a secure post.

### • Inaugural balls

Fabulous affairs with the crème de la crème of Washington society, great food and lavish decorations concludes inauguration day. Of course, this year that may be just a tad inappropriate since the U.S. is teetering on the edge of national bankruptcy.

Bye-bye Bush!

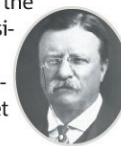
GRAHAM WOOD/METRO

## 10 facts to take to the bar ... U.S. presidents

**1** George Washington's salary as president was \$25,000 US — George W. Bush's was \$400,000 US.



**7** Theodore Roosevelt (1901-09) was the youngest president to ever serve.



He was elected vice-president on a ticket with president William McKinley, but in September 1901 a deranged anarchist shot McKinley twice in Buffalo, New York, and Roosevelt assumed the top office at 42.

**2** Theodore Roosevelt became the first president awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1906.

**3** George W. Bush was the 43rd president, but there actually have only been 42 presidents: Cleveland was elected for two nonconsecutive terms and is counted twice, as the 22nd and 24th president.

**4** The oldest president ever elected was Ronald Reagan (1981-89). The 40th president took office at the age of 69.



**8** Bill Clinton was the first U.S. Democratic president to win re-election since Franklin D. Roosevelt.



**9** The first and only president for a day was David Atchison. Zachary Taylor was a staunch Episcopalian and refused to be sworn in on a Sunday.

**5** Twenty-six presidents were lawyers before becoming president.

**6** Andrew Jackson was the first president to survive an assassination attempt.

**10** James Madison was president when the British entered Washington and set fire to the White House during the War of 1812.

# \$50M

Amount D.C. Mayor Adrian Fenty predicts will be needed to cover costs associated with the inauguration. Congress has already approved \$15 million.

## BY THE NUMBERS

# 2.5M

Number of people city officials expect in the city to celebrate inauguration festivities.

# 5,000

Number of portable toilets to be available to revelers on the National Mall.

# 22

Number of hours D.C.'s subway system will be running rush-hour service — from 4 a.m. to 2 a.m. — on Inauguration Day.

### Network coverage

#### CBC and CBC Newsworld

• Starting at 9 a.m., Peter Mansbridge hosts inauguration coverage. Live coverage of the parade starts at noon.

#### CTV

• Lloyd Robertson hosts a live special starting at 8 a.m., with commentary from Frank McKenna and Eleanor Clift, former White House correspondent for Newsweek.

#### Global

• Kevin Newman quarterback's coverage with a live Global News special starting at 9 a.m.

#### U.S. networks

• All three main U.S. networks as well as CNN start airing live from Washington at 8 a.m. ABC has Diane Sawyer, Charles Gibson and George Stephanopoulos hosting. CBS' coverage is helmed by Katie Couric. NBC's Brian Williams and Tom Brokaw lead their coverage, while MSNBC has Keith Olberman, Rachel Maddow. CNN has Wolf Blitzer and Anderson Cooper.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

# Address to focus on responsibility

**Barack Obama's inauguration address will call on Americans to embrace a new era of responsible behaviour — in government and in business.**

Obama's speech today will ask the country to reject the "culture of anything goes."

Obama will ask Ameri-

cans to restore a national value system that honours responsibility and accountability. It harkens back to John F. Kennedy's call for personal sacrifice in his 1960 inauguration address.

Obama wrote the bulk of the speech, press secretary Robert Gibbs said.

George W. Bush's 2005

**"I don't think you're going to be surprised by what you hear."**

David Axelrod, adviser

inaugural speech ran 21 minutes.

Obama's speech is ex-

pected to run about 15 to 20 minutes, according to ABC, which is on the short side compared to most inaugural addresses.

David Axelrod, Obama's senior adviser, said the speech would be consistent with the themes that Obama has emphasized throughout the campaign.

"I don't think you're going to be surprised by what you hear," he said. "I think he's going to talk about where we are as a country, but also who we are as a people and what responsibilities accrue to us as a result of that, and what we have to do to move forward." **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

## Riding the wave of public approval a heavy burden to bear

**RATINGS** As Barack Obama takes the oath of office today, with one of the highest approval ratings in history, the weight of the nation's hope is on his shoulders.

It's not just an abstract hope, but often, a very personal one. His well-wishers feel a palpable tie to the presidency, in a way that has seldom been seen in a political system that has steadily declined in its citizens' confidence.

"I have a daughter who lost her job with Ford (Motor Company), and she's struggling," says Laura Clark of Dunbar, W.Va., one of America's poorer



The public was still able to get fairly close to the inauguration site yesterday during the Martin Luther King holiday celebrations.

states. "I just hope he'll create the conditions that will get her a job. I think he'll be able to do it be-

cause he's capable of bringing everyone together to accomplish the most important goals."

Clark is not alone in that wish. The shattered economy is on most people's minds. And Obama's image of steadiness, stability and reasoned optimism has captured their confidence, drawing record numbers to Washington for today's inauguration ceremony. According to a Gallup poll this week, a whopping 83 per cent approve the way he's handled his transition to authority, and 78 per cent view him favourably, one of the highest ratings the

opinion sampling company has recorded in recent decades. By comparison, only 17 per cent expect George W. Bush to be remembered as an above average president as he leaves office, and a scant 22 per cent say they approved of his eight-year term. For some, Obama symbolizes the hope for cleansing and renewal. For others, he is simply a welcome respite from eight long years.

But says Tawanda Wright of Chicago: "My biggest fear that his term won't be long enough. I think he needs at least 12 (years)."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



**Cellular providers prepare for the worst**

Bell, Rogers and Telus have said they are expecting heavy cellular usage today, but reassured users it isn't likely to affect domestic operations. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

**Presidential Inauguration**

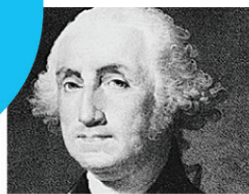
# The good, the bad and the most unfortunate

History's unforgettable moments — and those not worth remembering

## 5 inaugurations you would have wanted to attend ...

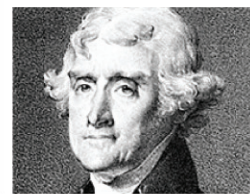
● **George Washington, 1789**

**To see what a president should really look like:** Washington wore white tights with silver shoe buckles and carried a steel-hilted sword.



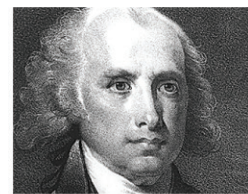
● **Thomas Jefferson, 1801**

**To shake the president's hand:** Jefferson broke precedent by mingling among spectators instead of riding in a carriage to his inauguration.



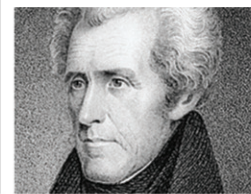
● **James Madison, 1809**

**To get cheap tickets:** Remember when \$4 would buy you a ticket to the inaugural ball? Well, maybe not, but that was the going rate for Madison's soirée. Today, it would cost an arm and a leg.



● **Andrew Jackson, 1829**

**To get good gossip:** After a particularly brutal campaign, outgoing president John Quincy Adams spitefully skipped out on the festivities.



● **Franklin Pierce, 1853**

**To witness a presidential spurning:** Pierce was the first of two presidents to "affirm" the oath of office instead of "swear" it, and he placed his hand on a law book instead of a Bible. **METRO**



## ... and five inaugurations you're glad you missed

● **Ulysses S. Grant, 1873**

**Because who serves frozen food at an inaugural ball?:** Grant's inauguration fell on the coldest March 4 on record. The building where the ball was held had no heat or insulation. The food froze on the tables.



● **William H. Taft, 1909**

**Because you would have gotten stuck in a blizzard:** The inauguration was forced indoors as winds toppled trees and telephone poles, trains stalled and streets were shut down. Crews cleared 58,000 tons of snow and slush.



● **Woodrow Wilson, 1913**

**Because no one wanted to party:** Grieving the loss of his son, the newly sworn-in president Wilson cancelled the inaugural ball because he felt it was inappropriate for what should be a solemn occasion.



● **Herbert Hoover, 1929**

**Because everyone was too poor to party:** On the brink of the Great Depression, officials suspended the inaugural ball for a much more modest charity ball. Nothing like bread lines to kill the mood.



● **Lyndon B. Johnson, 1963**

**Because you would have missed it anyway:** After the assassination of John F. Kennedy, Johnson was administered the oath of office on an airplane. There were no ceremonies until he was officially elected in 1965. **METRO**



## 10 things you never knew ...

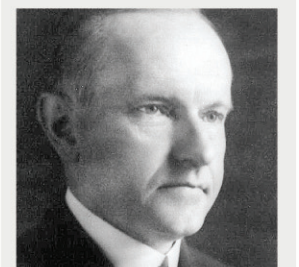
**1 Franklin D. Roosevelt** was the first president to be inaugurated on Jan. 20 in 1937. Before that, Inauguration Day was March 4.

**2 George Washington** delivered the shortest inauguration speech in history — at only 135 words — during his second inauguration in 1793.

**3 James Buchanan's** inauguration in 1857 was the first to be photographed.

**4 African-Americans** first marched in the inaugural parade at **Abraham Lincoln's** second swearing-in in 1865.

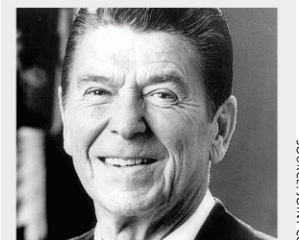
**5 Women** participated for the first time in an inaugural parade during **Woodrow Wilson's** second inauguration in 1917.



**6 Calvin Coolidge** was sworn in by former president William Taft, who had become the chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, in 1925.

**7 John F. Kennedy** was the first Catholic to become president.

**8 Gerald Ford** was the first unelected vice-president to become president.



**9 Ronald Reagan's** first inauguration was the warmest inauguration day on record. His second inauguration was the coldest.

**10 Bill Clinton's** inauguration was the first to be broadcast live on the Internet. **METRO**

SOURCE: JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL CEREMONIES

## Dumbest president?

**William H. Harrison** wore no winter gear at all to his inauguration in 1841. He delivered the longest inauguration address on record in the cold and wet 9 C weather. A month later, he died of pneumonia. The illness is said to have been brought on by overexposure to the weather on his inauguration day. **METRO**

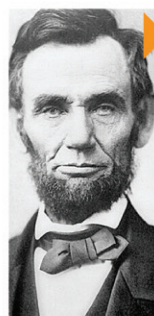


William H. Harrison

## True words of wisdom



**"No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the Invisible Hand which conducts the affairs of men more than those of the United States."**  
George Washington



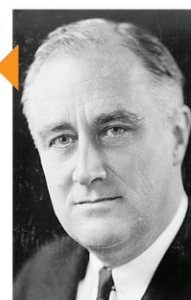
**"With malice toward none, with charity for all ... let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds."**  
Abraham Lincoln



**"Ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country."**  
John F. Kennedy

**"The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."**

Franklin D. Roosevelt



**"The tragic events of the 30 months of vital turmoil through which we have just passed have made us citizens of the world. There can be no turning back."**  
Woodrow Wilson



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# Comment & Views

## Comment

# Obama: Reversing a spiral

## National Report

Lawrence Martin



Behold the lesson from the ones who are most remembered. To be an exceptional leader, you have to be an exceptional communicator. That's the Lincoln lesson, the Roosevelt lesson, the Kennedy lesson, the Reagan lesson and the Trudeau lesson.

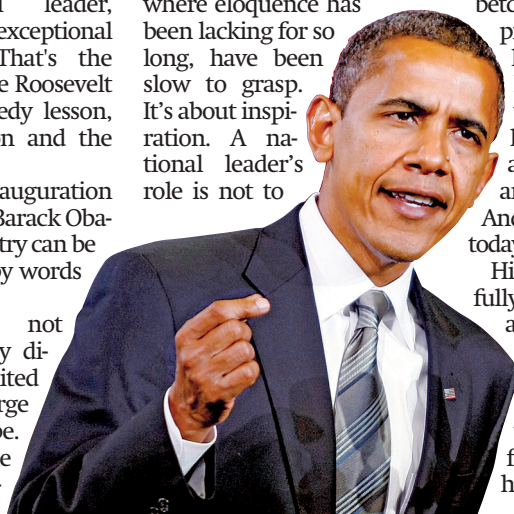
And today, inauguration day, it will be the Barack Obama lesson: A country can be moved as much by words as by deeds.

Obama may not change the policy direction of the United States to the large degree many hope. In recent weeks, he has sounded in-

creasingly moderate and mainstream. He appears to be seeking consensus rather than radical change.

His appointments are predominantly centrist types. His anti-war talk has dimmed. He's been all smiles around George W. Bush. He even declined an opportunity to repudiate the vile Dick Cheney.

But he's proving something that leaders in Canada, where eloquence has been lacking for so long, have been slow to grasp. It's about inspiration. A national leader's role is not to



## United States Presidential Inauguration

be one of the boys. It is to project something higher than the mundane. It is to uplift the country's conscience.

George Junior's frat-boy talk was hardly suited for the greatest power on earth. Sarah Palin's low-brow "you betcha" schtick was OK at a pizza banquet for the local hockey team. But for a leader of the western world, forget it. Take a hike George, Sarah, Dick and y'all. Visit a dictionary. Look up eloquence. And listen to Barack Obama today.

His historic oration hopefully will mark a turning away from a chapter in American history when it's been cool to be dense, when if you were seeking political office you were advised to hide your Ivy League edu-

cation. It's been a period — frequently referred to as the dumbing-down era — when to be erudite was decried as being elitist.

John F. Kennedy isn't remembered so much for what he did as for the style and the inspiration he brought. In the case of Pierre Trudeau, it's much the same. Each leader was seen as standing up for something higher. Each leader had his share of deficiencies, but Kennedy revitalized his country and so did, at least in his early years at the helm, Trudeau.

They weren't chasing after the lowest common denominator. They weren't mingling religion with politics. They weren't preying on people's base instincts.

That's the way down. Today, as the United States brings forward a beacon of inspiration, it's on the way to reversing that spiral.

Lawrence Martin is a Globe and Mail correspondent and author who writes about national affairs from Ottawa.

## Views

# Middle East needs more Obama



Mona Eltahawy

Global View

I live in Harlem, New York City, which on election night was the centre of the universe. I have never seen people so happy.

Four days later, I went to the Axis of Evil, or at least that's how former (doesn't it feel good to say that!) U.S. President George W. Bush described Syria. And there in the Damascus market I bought a T-shirt that said simply "Obama." One line in Arabic. Another in English.

Two very different cities. One simple joy at the mere idea of Obama.

Three months later, I am back in the Middle East and there is little joy. But Obama isn't the reason the region is heartsick and wary. Rather, it

is the absence of an Obama in the region that has sucked all joy out of it.

This morning in Doha, Qatar, the main photo on the front page of one of the national dailies was of Palestinians in Gaza lifting the decomposing body of a man onto the back of a pickup truck.

I am writing this from Tel Aviv, Israel, where at the airport an Israeli friend told me she is finally smiling again because with the ceasefire in place, she no longer has to worry her son will be sent to Gaza to fight. So, how do we become audaciously hopeful in the Mideast?

Forget our audaciously awful leaders — and when it comes to the Arab-Israeli con-

flikt they are evenly spread on both sides. Focus instead on young people, who form the majority in the region.

That's where U.S. President Barack Obama (doesn't it feel good to say that?) comes in.

The realist in me reminds the foolish optimist that Obama will be preoccupied with the U.S. economy and won't be as focused on the Middle East as those of us from the region would wish. The poor man, trim and fit physique notwithstanding, must be weighed down by a burden of expectations from everyone. But, he can be the leader the region lacks. He can be the leader that tells our young people — Arab, Israeli, Iranian and Kurdish, take your pick — "Yes you can!"

**"The old leaders in the Middle East have stopped dreaming. That's a tragedy. Young people still dream."**

Prof. Mira Tzoreff

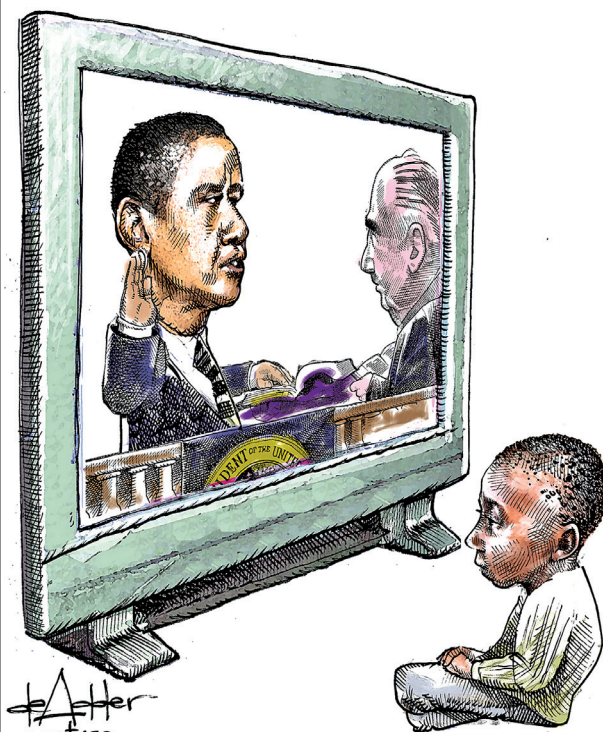
A young Egyptian blogger I met in Doha told me that listening to Obama's acceptance speech he felt he was listening to the late Egyptian president Gamal Abdel Nasser, known for his mesmerizing presence. The latter died long before the blogger was born, but that's how far he must go back to point to an Arab leader with a charismatic ability to galvanize the public.

"The old leaders in the Middle East have stopped dreaming," Prof. Mira Tzoreff told me as she and her husband drove me to my hotel. "That's a tragedy. Young people still dream."

President Obama, you still dream. Talk to the young people here and tell them their dreams matter.

Mona Eltahawy is an award-winning Egyptian-born commentator and public speaker on Arab and Muslim issues. She reported on the Middle East for 10 years before moving to the U.S.

## HISTORY



MICHAEL DEADOR

## Worth mentioning

# Hooping: From child's play to must-have fitness tool

Hula Hoops, those baby boomer toys that fired a worldwide craze in the 1950s, have come back as must-have fitness tools to strengthen the core and battle the love handle.

The hoop is an ancient toy, fashioned from dried grape vines in ancient Egypt and depicted on vases in fifth-century Athens.

But today's hoops are bigger, heavier, gaudier and more portable. And on the hips of 21st-century practitioners, "hooping" has morphed from child's play to low-impact workout, aerobic dance, and path to enlightenment.

"Hooping transformed my entire life," said Christabel Zamor, founder and CEO of HoopGirl Inc.

According to Zamor, contemporary hooping has evolved into hoop dance — a form of fitness, healing and meditation for adults of all ages and ability levels. She

said hooping is often called "the new yoga" because of its holistic and wellness benefits.

To Zamor, whose program has licensed more than 250 American Aerobics and Fitness Association-certified hoop dance teachers, contemporary hooping is all about fitness, self-esteem, and "getting your groove on."

"I was sedentary when I started hooping. But over time my body grew lean and my confidence soared," she said from her San Francisco headquarters. The business of hooping in the 21st century is mainly a cottage industry of hoop teachers and hoop makers. But

these entrepreneurs seem to agree that the newer, heavier, more efficient hoops are the key to the discipline's increasing popularity. REUTERS

## Metro Online Poll Results

60% SAID YES

Do you plan to watch Obama's inauguration?

Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca

40% SAID NO

It's your turn to tell others what you think. E-mail your thoughts and opinions to: [calgaryletters@metronews.ca](mailto:calgaryletters@metronews.ca)

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.



**Russia and Ukraine sign gas-supply deal**

Russia and Ukraine signed a 10-year gas-supply deal yesterday, clearing the way to resume deliveries to Europe. Ukraine will buy Russian gas at a 20 per cent discount compared with European prices. The exact price was not disclosed. **REUTERS**

9

# Business

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

## No loan relief for consumers?

**Chris McNeil says Canada's banks are making it tough for working folks to dig themselves out of debt.**

The 34-year-old administrative assistant, who's struggling to pay off his student loans, finds it "troubling" banks only cut their prime rates to 3.5 per cent from four per cent last month even as the Bank of Canada slashed its rate by 75 basis points to 1.5 per cent. And he worries banks may hold back again today.

The Canadian Bankers Association has recently argued that banks' total costs of borrowing have not fallen as far as the Bank of Canada's rate. The overnight rate is just part of banks' total funding mix.

Some economists suggest consumers may not see substantial relief in borrowing costs soon. While most expect the Bank of Canada to cut its overnight rate again today, not everyone is convinced that commercial banks will pass on the full savings this time around.

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

## Homeowners cautiously going green

**HOMES** Though demand for green products and services remains remarkably high in these tough economic times, big-ticket items are proving a harder sell.

Homeowners who might have installed a geothermal or rooftop solar system a year ago are now more likely to hold off until the economy improves.

However, early adopters of green technologies are less affected by the sour economy because they tend to have higher disposable income. The challenge arises from pushing the pricier technologies into the mainstream.

One geothermal provider was confident because of the huge potential for growth, while green energy retailer Bullfrog says customers are willing to pay to make a statement against nuclear or coal-powered energy. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

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## Your Money

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

Apply online: [www.icicibank.ca](http://www.icicibank.ca)

## No income, no taxes, right?

**Q** Last November, I received a request from Revenue Canada to file a tax return for 2004-07. In 2003, I was laid off from work; the payout was generous and I decided to start my own business. Currently, my income is derived from investment dividends and interest. Profits from the business are insignificant. My total income is less than the basic personal exemption. Therefore, I would owe no taxes. Many of my colleagues agree: I do not have to file a tax return, unless I owe taxes! How do I get them off my back? **Ali**

**A** Your age or marriage status isn't very clear, but it must be a challenge to live on income that you describe.

You're partially right: Individuals must file a tax return if taxes are owed.

## MoneyMatters

**Henry Choo Chong**

[choochonghcg@yahoo.ca](mailto:choochonghcg@yahoo.ca)

However, there are many other circumstances that obligate you to file:

- CRA has made a request. This obligates you to file.
- An individual has disposed of property. Although you receive investment income less than the basic personal exemption, if you sold real estate, stocks, or owned mutual funds, gains may exist.
- If your profits from the business exceed \$3,500, you may have a CPP obligation.
- Repayments of RRSP HBP or LLPs.
- Repayments of OAS or employment.

Reach Henry Choo Chong, CGA, at [choochonghcg@yahoo.ca](mailto:choochonghcg@yahoo.ca).

## Words from the moneywise

## SmartCookies



**W**hen we made the decision to get our financial lives in order, the first thing we did was spend hundreds of dollars on money guides. Sound crazy? It was. So to save you from this mistake, we've compiled a list of our favourites. Now of course, the No. 1 must-have is Smart Cookies' Guide to Making More Dough (wink, wink), but here are our top picks.

**Andrea's Pick:**  
**Suze Orman's 2009 Action Plan, by Suze Orman**

Suze Orman is known for her no-nonsense smack-down style, and this book is no exception. 2009 Action

Plan, is a simple, step-by-step guide on how to get back on track and into financial shape if you've fallen off the wagon due to the present economic disaster. Plus, it's half the price of a regular financial book in book stores.

**Sandra's Pick:**  
**Make Money Not Excuses, by Jean Chatzky**

Prior to becoming Smart Cookies, we had excuse after excuse as to why we just couldn't save, invest, or make more dough. After reading this book we realized that a: we weren't alone (the author even shares her own money mistakes!), and that b: confronting our money mishaps was the first step in reaching financial freedom. Plus, you'll love the simple solutions to your everyday money concerns.

**Angela's Pick:**  
**Smart Women Finish Rich, by David Bach**

In the early days of our money group this was our guide (we even took part of the title to create our

name!) When reading this book, I started to think about my money not as a number in the bank or a source of stress but as a means to living my richest life (in all senses of the word.) It's a step-by-step guide to becoming a financially savvy and self-sufficient woman and every Smart Cookie should read Smart Women Finish Rich!

**Katie's Pick:**  
**Freakonomics, by Stephen Dubner and Steven Levitt**

I am a sucker for a good storyteller. And a book that can analyze different socioeconomic phenomena in a humorous and engaging way will definitely earn my respect. Freakonomics examines what people will do to get what they want. And while it's not your typical financial how-to book, it does offer some great lessons on questioning the different financial incentives we encounter.

**Robyn's Pick:**  
**The Wealthy Barber, by**

**David Chilton**

Although it's been 20 years since this book was first published, the core concepts continue to ring true. Chilton was certainly not the first to introduce the idea, however he certainly made it clear that paying yourself first is one of the fundamentals in living your richest life. As a book that has sold nearly three million copies, and is the best-selling Canadian book of all time, Chilton's concepts are definitely well respected within the financial field.

Tune in Monday nights at 10:30 p.m. EST/PST on the W Network and be sure to visit [smartcookies.com](http://smartcookies.com) for more tips.

## Investing

**Allan Small**

What will get the market moving ahead in 2009? Read this week's column at [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

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**Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino • 4 ★**  
Hollywood hip  
Mar. 2, 3 & 8-10 • 3 nts.

**\$359**  
Taxes & fees: \$183

**Paris Las Vegas • 4 ★**  
Luxury rm.  
Mar. 8, 9, 10 & 23 • 3 nts.

**\$399**  
Taxes & fees: \$183

**Encore Wynn Las Vegas • 5 ★**  
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**Lemieux likely to suit up for Sharks tonight**

Claude Lemieux is back in the NHL after a 5½-year absence, joining the San Jose Sharks at age 43 in hopes of one more run at the Stanley Cup. Lemieux practised in San Jose and he's likely to play tonight in Vancouver. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Sports

JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA



## Dempster out for WBC

Ryan Dempster, left, has bowed out of Team Canada for the World Baseball Classic. Fellow Chicago Cubs teammate and B.C. native Rich Harden was named on the 45-man provisional roster released yesterday, but shoulder concerns could put his participation in doubt.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

**NBA RESULT**

**Raptors 84 Hawks 87**



**Joe Johnson hit the game-winner with 12.5 seconds left as the Atlanta Hawks edged the Toronto Raptors 87-84 on Martin Luther King Day in King's hometown of Atlanta.**

Chris Bosh logged 22 points and 14 boards and Andrea Bargnani gave 20 and 10 for the Raptors, who have lost a season-high six straight games. Jamario Moon's three-pointer late in the game tied it up and Bosh's long jumper gave the Raptors an 80-78 lead with about four minutes left. Toronto squandered its next two possessions and then Johnson hit a jumper with Moon in his face to give the Hawks an 87-84 lead with 12.5 seconds left to play.

"For the most part we played pretty good," said Raptors head coach Jay Triano. "Our mental toughness has to get better."

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Ovechkin beats Isles himself

**NHL RESULTS**

Alexander Ovechkin scored twice, including the game-winner with 3:14 left in overtime as the Washington Capitals edged the New York Islanders 2-1 yesterday.

Sergei Fedorov skated the puck into the New York end and slammed on the brakes at the right circle.

He fed a short pass over to Alexander Semin, who skated to the low right side and fed the puck out front for Ovechkin, who one-timed the puck home for his league-leading 31st goal of the season.

**BLUES 5, BRUINS 4**

T.J. Oshie scored the game-winner in the shootout as the St. Louis Blues rallied late for an improbable 5-4 win over the Boston Bruins.

With regulation time winding down and shortly after a St. Louis skater blocked a shot on the empty net at the other end, Keith Tkachuk threw a shot on net that Tim Thomas stopped, but the rebound popped straight up and David Backes whacked it in just before

time expired. The goal was reviewed to see if Backes hit it in with a high stick, but the goal was allowed.

**HURRICANES 2, LEAFS 0**

Cam Ward stopped 35 shots to post his second shutout of the season, as Carolina blanked Toronto 2-0 at Air Canada Centre.

"I felt really good tonight," Ward said of his performance. "As the game wore on, I felt more comfortable. We really took it to them in the second period."

Joe Corvo and Chad LaRose lit the lamp for the Hurricanes, who put an end to a five-game losing skid.

Vesa Toskala made 32 saves for the Maple Leafs, who have dropped six of their last seven games.

Carolina netted a pair of goals in the second period, and then relied on Ward to keep Toronto at bay.

Ward made 15 saves in the third period, and any potential Leafs comeback was stunted late, as Alexei Ponikarovsky was whistled for interference with 1:48 remaining in regulation.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



Alex Ovechkin celebrates his OT goal against the Isles.

**Sports in brief**

**NHL** Mike Cammalleri of the Flames was named the NHL's second star of the week yesterday. Cammalleri picked up five goals and one assist in the week ending Sunday en route to second-star honours.

**CFL** The CFL has lost its best defensive player to the NFL. Cam Wake has signed a four-year deal that could be worth \$5 million US with the NFL's Miami Dolphins. Wake recorded 39 sacks in 38 regular-season games in the CFL and was chosen the CFL's defensive player of the year in each of the past two seasons for the BC Lions.

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## Pinball likely out as Argos CEO

**Michael (Pinball) Clemons**, arguably the most popular figure in Toronto's sports history, is likely out as the Argonauts' CEO, sources tell Metro.

Clemons, they say, might remain with the Argos in a front-office and/or ambassador capacity but his agent, **Gil Scott**, isn't sure.

"I really don't know what's going on with Pinball," Scott said. "I can't get a straight answer."

Neither Clemons nor Argos co-owners **Howard Sokolowski** and **David Cynamon** could be reached by Metro yesterday. General manager **Adam Rita** was contacted at the Senior Bowl in Alabama, where he

**YorkReport**

**Marty York**

[marty.york@metronews.ca](mailto:marty.york@metronews.ca)



is scouting, but his cell-phone disconnected after he was asked about Clemons and it went straight into voice mail the rest of the afternoon. While Clemons may be mulling over a non-executive offer from the Argos, the sources say ownership is close to hiring a new CEO.

Clemons, 44, became the Argos' head coach during the 2000 season after a legendary playing career in Toronto that started in 1989 and landed him in the Canadian Football Hall of Fame. He finished with a coaching record of 68-55-1 and led the Argos to the Grey Cup championship in 2004. He was appointed CEO before the 2008 season and hired his defensive co-ordinator, **Rich Stubler**, as his head coaching successor. He also was responsible for trading

for quarterback **Kerry Joseph**, who was chosen the CFL's top player with the Saskatchewan Roughriders in 2007. Both Stubler and Joseph flopped. Clemons fired Stubler in mid-season and replaced him with **Don Matthews**, who went 0-8.

Last week, when the Argos hired ex-NFL assistant **Bart Andrus**, Clemons wasn't consulted and didn't attend the news conference that introduced the team's newest head coach.

• One of Canada's premier sports columnists is retiring early.

**William Houston**, whose Truth and Rumours became must-read material after it launched in 1991, has accepted a buyout from The Globe and Mail and will write his final column next month.

"Bill ripped me a lot early in my career, but he made me better," CBC sports reporter **Elliott Friedman** said. "He was fair."

From ex-TSN and Sportsnet anchor **Jim Van Horne**: "He made the media look over their shoulders and forced them to be honest."

**Steelers by 7**

• The Pittsburgh Steelers have been established by oddsmakers as seven-point favourites over the Arizona Cardinals for the Super Bowl in Tampa Bay on Feb. 1.

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# Health & Beauty

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE COLACINO, ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

## Estrogen in your moisturizer?

CELIA MILNE  
for Metro Canada



**Moisturizers — particularly ones that “rejuvenate” your skin — may contain estrogen without mentioning it in the ingredient list. This was the conclusion of a small study in the U.S.**

For the study, 16 moisturizers were analyzed in a laboratory to see if they contained estrogen. The creams were all commonly available, and ranged in price from \$10 to \$100. Six of them contained measurable levels of estrogen. Yet none listed estrogenic hormones on the label.

This means that women may be exposing themselves to small amounts of estrogen without knowing it.

The leader of the study was Dr. Adrienne Olson, a doctor of pharmacy and a survivor of a type of breast cancer called estrogen-receptor positive breast cancer, which is exacerbated by higher levels of estrogen in the body. She wondered during her own breast cancer treatment if she and other women might be dousing themselves daily with extra estrogen through their moisturizers.

She suspected that products promoting a youthful appearance might contain estrogen.

Olson, a volunteer for Breastlink in Long Beach, Calif., collected the 16 samples and sent them to a research laboratory where they were analyzed for the presence of estradiol, estrone

and estriol. Her collaborators in the study were Dr. John Link (MD) and Dr. Tom Kupiec (PhD) of Analytical Research Laboratories in Oklahoma City, Okla.

One of the products was found to contain estrone and five of them contained estriol. Other products may contain lower levels of estrogen not detected in this test, said Olson.

It is not clear whether skin exposure to estrogens has an influence on ER-positive breast cancer, but Olson errs on the safe side.

“As an ER-positive breast cancer survivor, I am now choosing to use baby oil — until further data is available,” she told Metro in an e-mail message.

Olson presented her study at the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium in late 2008. She did not give out

names of estrogen-containing products because companies frequently change their formulas.

The main purpose of the study was to encourage the cosmetics industry to produce moisturizers free of estrogen and label them as such. Right now, she said, government monitoring of ingredients in these products is spotty and inconsistent.

Olson also hopes that moisturizers will be further scrutinized by experts. “We need others in the scientific community and the USFDA to repeat and expand upon these numbers,” she said.

**“As an (estrogen-receptor) positive breast cancer survivor, I am now choosing to use baby oil — until further data is available.”**

Dr. Adrienne Olson, a doctor of pharmacy



ISTOCK PHOTO

In a recent U.S. study of 16 moisturizers, six of them contained measurable levels of estrogen. Yet none listed the hormones on the label.

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## Intellect linked to sperm count

### The J Spot

**Josey Vogels**

Sex talk with Josey



A recent study showed that men who scored higher on an intelligence test had more sperm per milliliter.

You may think it's the potential for brilliant conversation that makes intelligence such an attractive trait in a man but it may be that his intellect is a sign of something else: According to researchers, smart guys have higher sperm counts.

The researchers at King's College London, the University of Delaware and the University of New Mexico compared results from intelligence tests given to 425 guys aged 31 to 44. The men also provided sperm samples and upon analysis, the researchers found the men who scored higher on the intelligence test not only had more sperm per milliliter, but their sperm were also

better swimmers.

Previous theories believed that highly intelligent men might score less stressful jobs and make better lifestyle choices, resulting in better health and healthier sperm. But, according to the researchers in this study, even the smart guys with poor health had higher sperm counts, causing them to speculate that indicators of intelligence and good sperm may ride in on the same gene float.

But before all you less-than-brilliant lads get down

on your little swimmers, take heart in the fact that semen has some other neat tricks up its sleeve besides delivering super sperm. For example, there is evidence that semen can make a girl happy, and not in ways you might think.

Researchers have found that women who regularly had unprotected sex with their partner were less depressed than women who regularly used a condom. Having ruled out other explanations, they think this is because mood-altering hor-

mones in semen are absorbed through the vagina.

Of course, before you go having unprotected sex as a mood enhancer, it goes without saying that an unwanted pregnancy or an STD would no doubt put a damper on your natural high.

And while the health and vitality of a man's sperm may be a going concern (especially if he's trying to have kids), seminal fluid is much more than a spermatozoa carrier. In fact, sperm makes up only about one per cent of its contents. The rest is a complex mix of over 300 components, among them proteins, enzymes, zinc, and fructose and changes in colour, smell, taste or texture may be indicators of health problems, such as prostate infection or other plumbing problems.

So, even if your little tadpoles aren't the best swimmers, it's still important to monitor the quality of the pool water.

Josey Vogels is a sex and relationship columnist and author of five books on the subjects. For more info, visit [joseyvogels.com](http://joseyvogels.com).



# Lip service

Treatments for your pout

JENNIFER MASSEAU  
for Metro Canada

**Clarins Extra Firming Lip and Contour Balm, 15 mL, \$45**

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**Nivea Lip Care Lip Effect Q10 Plus, 10 mL, \$4**

Plump up your pout with a dose of Coenzyme Q10, which is combined with soybean oil in this balm to stimulate cell regeneration, visibly enhancing lip volume. Calendula oil and shea butter give an added moisture boost. At drug stores; nivea.ca.



**Lancôme Paris Primordiale Lip Skin Recharge, 15 mL, \$43**

For silky soft lips, this perfume-free age-fighting balm reduces fine lines and delivers smoother texture on the lips and contour area with antioxidant botanical vitamin E and Gatuline, a gentle exfoliator. It also doubles as a lipstick primer. At drug and department stores; lancome.ca.



**Olay Regenerist Anti-Aging Lip Treatment, 1.8 g, \$30**

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## Part 5

**Triolax, why it's the best internal cleansing program**

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Triolax should logically be the first step before starting a weight loss program.

**Are there counter-indications ?**

Each of the 3 products in the Triolax program have obtained their natural product number from Health Canada therefore, have a complete nomenclature listing when it comes to the products' precautions and indications. However, pregnant or breastfeeding women should not take this product nor people suffering with Crohns disease.

**Should I take Triolax the Original or Digetol by Triolax?**

*To be continued on January 22nd...*

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Left to right: Livia Apricot Enzyme Moisture (\$50), Brightening Youth Serum (\$32) and Green Tea Complex Toner (\$35).



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## Health in brief

**GAMING** Playing the video game Tetris immediately after traumatic events appears to reduce flashbacks that plague sufferers of post-traumatic stress disorder, according to a British study. The preliminary findings could lead to new treatments to prevent or cut flashbacks that are a hallmark

of the condition, also known as PTSD, Oxford University researchers said.

**TRANSPLANTS** Younger women have equal access to kidney transplants compared with their male counterparts, but older women receive kidney transplants much less frequently than older men, new research shows. However, the research team "found no difference in survival benefit from transplantation between men and women, suggesting that a substantial number of older women who stand to benefit from transplantation lack access to it."

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**Serve 'em up, George**

Settling into his 15-month stint in a north London prison, Boy George has already landed a job behind bars. The flamboyant singer — who was convicted of falsely imprisoning a male escort — is working in the prison canteen serving food to other inmates, according to South Africa's News 24. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

**15**

# Entertainment

**And the winner isn't...**

Katy Perry was accidentally presented with the best international song award at France's NRJ Awards in Cannes. The award should have been presented to Rihanna, the BBC reports.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DEAN LISK, DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

## Nova Scotia town is next to lose its women

JON TATTIE  
for Metro Canada

**When the women left Tatamagouche, N.S., Jimmy LeFresne watched with foreboding. "Once the buses were gone, it was silence, like a void. There was no jumping for joy. Then it kicked in: 'They're gone, so now what?'"**

LeFresne, 50, owns the north-shore town's Train Station Inn; he's also the elected councillor. When CBC TV's *The Week the Women Went* whisked the sleepy community's ladies away to a luxury hotel, they took his staff with them.

"I had to tell the men of the community, 'I need help here!'" he laughs. "I had another councillor come over, I had the local RCMP cooking meals. It was quite something. Some

**On TV**

• Season Two of *The Week the Women Went* starts at 8 p.m. tomorrow on CBC-TV.

coped very well and some ... struggled, we'll say."

Like many in the 700-person town, LeFresne had a microphone on at all hours. "You tried to be on your best behaviour, but there are times when things just fall about. All of a sudden, you've done something and you think, 'Oh my land, it's on film.'"

He hopes the program will show people Tatamagouche is not the dying East Coast community of stereotypes.

"We're far from that. If a wrench is thrown into the mix, we deal with it," he said. "If you talk to anybody in our community,



The women of Tatamagouche, N.S. brave a storm as they leave town for a week of pampering.

we don't think it's a slow pace, because we're going full-tilt all the time."

Asked how he thought a *Week the Men Went* would go, LeFresne burst out laughing. "I think (the

women) would notice. There's two sides to the story."

Cal Shumiatcher, the executive producer, says he wanted a "romantic" location in the Maritimes.

"Tata just shone — we had so much fun," he explains from his Vancouver office. "It's wonderful when people open up their lives and show you what they're about."

## Cruise says he 'always wanted to kill Hitler'

**FILM** Tom Cruise, who fails to assassinate Adolf Hitler in his new film *Valkyrie*, said he grew up wanting to kill the Nazi leader.

In the Second World War thriller



Tom Cruise

based on a true story of the unsuccessful attempt by German soldiers to kill Hitler, Cruise plays an officer who plants a bomb at Hitler's military headquarters. "I always wanted to kill Hitler, I hated him," the star said during a visit to Seoul to promote the film. "As a child studying history and looking at documents, I wondered, 'Why didn't someone stand up and try to stop it?'" **REUTERS**

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# Nickel Eye's solo Strokes

Bass player mines eye-opening roadtrip on new album

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI  
for Metro Canada



**Nikolai Fraiture has come a long way since he dropped out of college at 19 to travel, Jack Kerouac style, across America. But on The Strokes bassist's debut album he decided to venture back 11 years and mine those heady days for material.**

"It was a very interesting time," says Fraiture, who plays under the name Nickel Eye when he's not slapping bass strings with his other band. "It was not what I expected from my young, ideal dreams; I was pretty disillusioned."

Although the trip was more than a decade ago, Fraiture managed to find his old notebooks filled

with his writings. "They were in a shoebox," he says. "I went through them for inspiration and the majority of words came from that."

While he might have had the lyrical foundation for his tunes, writing music on his own for the first time was an eye-opening experience.

Until penning tracks for his new record, *The Time of the Assassins*, he'd only concentrate on adding bass to The Strokes' songs. Now he was forced to look at the big picture.

"This experience really helped me understand what everyone else is doing," he explains. "Before, I could push my part at the sake of a song. But I've learned different things and I see them from a dif-

ferent point of view now."

Fraiture admits that his new disc is a "challenging listen all around," but in reality it's not too far off from what a toned down Strokes album might sound like. His voice is oddly similar to Julian Casablancas', though he mumbles a lot more and the music is nearly as infectious and passionate — minus the distortion — as his other group's tunes.

So, if the music's not that far off from what he plays in his day job, why's he releasing his own batch of tunes? "We had a lot of time off with The Strokes," he says. (The fivesome's last album was released in 2006.) "And I couldn't wait around any longer."

After a year and a half of writing he found himself

with an album. But after all that work, it's unlikely the New York-based musician will have a lot of time to promote his labour of love — The Strokes are finally going back into the studio in February.

Nickel Eye's not upset though, for him *The Strokes* is still his top priority. "I can't speak for everyone, but for me, I definitely want to be in this band. When you're on tour for so long everything becomes the same. We just needed to regroup. That's all."

So, then when might the masses see Fraiture play beyond a few January dates? He has no idea. "If things go quickly in the studio then maybe we can take a break. It depends how things unfold."



*The Time of the Assassins*, the debut solo disc from Strokes bassist Nikolai Fraiture will be available in stores and online next week.

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## Mariah Carey goes from Glitter to grim at Sundance

**SUNDANCE** Singer Mariah Carey has taken a break from pop stardom to act in new movie *Push*, but far from her lead role in semi-autobiographical *Glitter*, Carey has opted for a supporting part in this often grim tale.

In fact, the real star of *Push*, which debuted this past weekend at Sundance, is an unknown actress from Harlem, Gabourey Sidibe, playing an obese and overburdened 16-year-old

named Precious Jones who is twice impregnated by her father and is beaten by her mother.

Yet, she also has adults who look out for her, and one of those is welfare case worker, Mrs. Weiss, played by Carey. With her stringy hair and no non-sense attitude, Mrs. Weiss is



Mariah Carey

far from the glamorous role Carey took in 2001's *Glitter*, which was loosely based on her own rise to pop music stardom. But that movie was panned by critics and earned only \$5.3 million US at global box offices. Since then, Carey has starred in a few movies, but for the most part they have been seen only on TV, DVD or outside the United States.

*Push*, however, is based on a best-selling novel and directed by Lee Daniels who produced *Monster's Ball*, which earned Halle Berry a best actress Oscar. So curiosity was running high at Sundance to see how Carey performed.

At least one early review was positive. Show business paper *Daily Variety* called *Push*, "courageous and uncompromising," and added that "among the many delightful surprises in the film is Mariah Carey, who is pitch-perfect as a welfare counselor and serves as this demi-tragedy's Greek chorus."

In *Push*, Carey has chosen the small but pivotal role of a woman who unravels Precious' monstrous home life.

"Mrs. Weiss is sort of the eyes of the audience, the people who don't know anybody like this in their lives," Carey said. "Yes it's her job ... but even someone who goes through that every day and sees these horrific things, she hears something that changes her."

REUTERS

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Sneak peek at the circus

Singer Britney Spears is giving fans a sneak peek at her new tour, The Circus, on her website, Britneyspears.com. The Circus starts March 3 in New Orleans and continues throughout the U.S. and Canada this spring. [INTOUCHWEEKLY.COM](#)



# Lost in Lost long ago

## IntelleVision



rick.mcginis@metronews.ca

### MOST SUITABLE TITLE

**EVER:** Ten years ago, when I bought the first new television I'd ever owned after almost 20 years of not watching any TV at all, I found myself sucked into the rush of episodic shows and long-running storylines when I was overcome with a brief but intense addiction to Coronation Street.

I hadn't a clue who the characters were, but there was something compelling about their banal but vivid lives that had me watching every day for a month, at which point the addiction suddenly left me. (It took a bit longer to shake my fascination with syndicated episodes of *Designing Women*, but that's a topic for a different day.)

A pair of stories on the return of *Lost* this week underlined how the show's wild tangle of plotlines has become taxing for all but the most dedicated of viewers. A story on [scifiwire.com](#) re-



A pair of stories on the return of *Lost* this week underlined how the show's wild tangle of plotlines has become taxing for all but the most dedicated of viewers.

vealing that season five will see the series go into "answer mode" underlined this problem, and featured teasers, like the one that "viewers will see more of Jin (Daniel Dae Kim), who is a series regular this year, though his character apparently perished last year when the freighter exploded. The producers wouldn't say how and under what circumstances viewers will see Jin." A New York Times story echoed the confusion experienced by anyone new to the show, or at the disadvantage of missing a few episodes:

"What ever happened to the four-toed statue? Why do some inhabitants of the island never seem to age? What is the Smoke Monster?"

The Times piece profiles Gregg Nations, the script supervisor and co-producer tasked with the job of "untangling the seemingly impenetrable mass of plotlines that have become addictive to some viewers of the show and alienating to others." At this point I'm glad to know that someone is doing this job, though it's probably too late for someone, like my-

self, who tuned out halfway through season one.

Shows as labyrinth as *Lost* guarantee that they'll have fewer, not more, viewers than the number that tuned in at the start, and the three million that have been shed since the first season proves this. It's the ratings equivalent of a Shaker colony, committed but unable to reproduce, and it's hard to see how network TV will encourage as audiences and ad dollars continue to dwindle.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

## DVD picks

### Austin Powers Collection

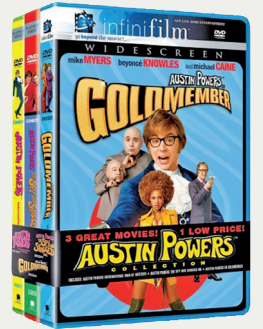
Including: *International Man of Mystery*; *The Spy Who Shagged Me*; and *Goldmember*  
Rating: PG13

**FOR FANS** of Scarborough's Mike Myers, there's a bright side to last year's *The Love Guru* debacle. Instead of a *Love Guru 2*, we're now far more likely to see an *Austin Powers 4*.

Which would be entirely shagadelic, baby. A dozen years ago, as this collected set reminds us, Myers created a classic clown with Austin "Danger" Powers, his time-travelling 007 send-up.

A multi-tasker before the term became tiresome, Myers also created fun villains: Dr. Evil, a pinky-sucking bullet head modelled after the Bond baddie Blofeld; Fat Bastard, an obese Scot with a voracious appetite and horrific toilet habits; and *Goldmember*, a Dutch roller disco fanatic and mad scientist moulded from Bond's nemesis, Goldfinger.

It all holds up very well,



although signs of fatigue were starting to set in by the time *Goldmember* arrived in 2002. Compared to *The Love Guru*, however, this is all pure gold.

The *Austin Powers* series began the same year the DVD was introduced and Myers was smart enough to recognize the value of extras early on. So all three movies come with copious deleted scenes, commentaries, music videos and other attractions. But if extras are your thing, you should grab the "Shagadelic Edition" on Blu-ray. The plain vanilla DVD review set I received puts all three movies onto one disc with no extras whatsoever. Where's my mojo, baby?

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## In brief

**HOST** Jeopardy! host Alex Trebek will moonlight on the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. as host of the reality competition series *Canada's Next Prime Minister*. The Ontario native, who got his start at the public broadcaster, will share the stage March 18 with three former prime ministers as they field pitches from four would-be politicians before choosing a winner.

REUTERS

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CA	Vu	SC	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
267	351	-	ACCESS	Truth, Duty, Valour	Without a Trace		Cold Case		Law & Order "Darkness"		Truth, Duty
243	317	3	CFCN	etalk	Hollywood	The Mentalist (HDTV)	American Idol Auditions.		(10:01) Fringe (N)		News (N)
-	-	4	OMNI	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News	News		The Simpsons	King	Metropia
-	371	5	KXLY	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	The Neighborhood Ball: An Inauguration Celebration			Inauguration
245	306	6	CBRT	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	22 Minutes	Wild Roses (HDTV) (N)	CBC News: The National		The Hour
244	338	7	CICT	ET Canada	Entertainment	90210 "By Accident" (N)		NCIS (HDTV)	Kitchen Nightmares (N)		News Hour
246	-	8	CKAL	Law & Order: SVU		A Moment in History		Privileged (HDTV) (N)	Scrubs	Scrubs	Your City
119	705	9	CBXFT	Virginie (SC)	La Fature	Providence (HDTV) (N) (SC)	Roxy (N) (SC)	Grosse vie (N)	Le Téléjournal et Les Nou		TJ Alberta
-	-	10	SHAW	(6) Local Programming					Local Programming		
-	372	12	KREM	News (N)	Hollywood	The Doctors	NCIS (HDTV)		Dream Big Dream		The Mentalist
-	374	14	KSPS	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		Nova (N) (DVS)	Wild!		Frontline (N) (DVS)		Independent
502	390	15	CBC	CBC News: The National		Dreams of Obama (N)	CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		Dreams of
-	370	16	KHQ	News (N)	Be-Millionaire	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel-Fortune	The Biggest Loser (N)			Dateline NBC
-	373	22	KAYU	The Simpsons	Raymond	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	American Idol Auditions.	(10:01) Fringe (N)		News (N)
297	652	37	WPX	Privileged (HDTV) (N)		PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men	Friends	Sex and-City	According-Jim
500	500	29	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360	Inauguration ball. (Live)			Showbiz Tonight	Larry King Live Inauguration.		Cooper 360
508	502	31	CNN2	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Nancy Grace			Lou Dobbs Tonight		Nancy Grace
400	400	21	TSN	NHL Hockey	SportsCentre	NHL Hockey Vancouver Canucks at San Jose Sharks.			(HDTV) (Live)		SportsCentre
408	418	27	net	NHL Hockey Columbus Blue Jackets at Edmonton Oilers. (HDTV) (Live)			Sportsnet Con.		Sportsnet Connected		Prime Time
410	403	30	SCORE	(5:30) Court Surfing	Score Tonight		Hardcore Hockey Talk		World Poker Crown		Final Score
411	457	44	OLN	Mantracker	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman		Mantracker		Bounty Hunter
417	406	48	SPEED	Super Bikes!	Super Bikes!	Hot Import	Trackside	NASCAR Pre.	Low Life	Low Life	Super Bikes!
552	543	20	YTV	Drake & Josh	iCarly	Scorpion	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Falcon Beach
557	541	39	FAM	Zoe 101	Life Derek	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Ned's School
555	545	67	TOON	Ben 10	Johnny Test	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6teen	6teen	Misadventures	American Dad
575	583	11	CMT	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Three Wishes	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba
553	546	17	TREE	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Max & Ruby	Babar	Backyardigans	Go, Diego, Go!
-	-	18	CHTV	The Insider (N)	E! News	Ruby	Kimora: Fab	The Biggest Loser (N)			News (N)
505	398	19	TWN	(5) EarthWatch One		EarthWatch One		EarthWatch Two			
602	568	23	W	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Will & Grace	Friends	Extreme Celebrity Love Splits	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Good Naked
521	560	24	TLC	Raising 16 Children		17 Kids and Counting		16 Children and Moving In	Raising 16 Children		17 Kids-Count
603	561	25	FOOD	The F Word		Good Eats	Good Eats	Iron Chef America	Challenge Ice cream.		The F Word
615	520	26	A&E	The First 48 "Blackout"		Manhunters	Manhunters	The Beast "Pilot" (HDTV)	The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48
617	522	32	SHOW	Wife Swap		The Outer Limits		Mutant X	Testees	Trailer Park	House
601	562	33	SLICE	Rich Bride, Poor Bride	End of Leash	End of Leash	ET Canada	Matchmaker	Date My Ex: Jo & Slade		Trading Sp
-	633	34	ENC2	(6:45) U.S. Marshals ** (1998, Crime Drama)			Passenger 57 ** (1992, Action)		(10:25) The Delta Force		
520	505	35	DISC	Destroyed	Time Warp (N)	Toughest Race: Iditarod	Daily Planet		Destroyed	Time Warp	Race: Iditarod
620	523	36	BRAVO	Ferron: Girl on a Road		Freddie Mercury	Law & Order		Without a Trace		American Mv
294	650	40	WPCH	(6) Ali *** (2001, Biography)			Seinfeld	Family Guy	Ali *** (2001, Biography)	Will Smith.	
626	547	41	COM	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Farce	Just for Laughs	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	S. Silverman
-	539	42	TCM	Guess Who's Coming		Bringing Up Baby *** (1938, Comedy) (DVS)			The Little Minister *** (1934, Drama)		
628	584	43	SPIKE	UFC Unleashed		UFC Unleashed	MANswers	MANswers	CSI: NY "Rain" (HDTV)		Disorderly
522	516	45	HIST	Ultimate Engineering		NCIS "Twisted Sister"	Ultimate Engineering		Ax Men "The Final Haul"		NCIS
627	528	46	SPACE	The Dresden Files		Destination Truth	Stargate SG-1		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Deep Space 9
-	-	47	AMC	(6) The Longest Day *** (1962, War)	John Wayne, Robert Mitchum, Henry Fonda.				The Magnificent Seven *** (1960, Western)		
619	525	49	TROP	What Happen?	What Happen?	Planet Soap	Big Screen	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Raymond	Family Guy
600	564	50	HGTV	Sarah's House	Design Inc.	Colin & Justin's Home Heist	Holmes on Homes		Sarah's House	Design Inc.	Pure Design
501	391	52	CTV	CTV Newsnet		News	CTV Newsnet		News	CTV Newsnet	News
504	508	70	BNN	Squeeze Play		Market Call		Headline	Commodities	Business News	Squeeze Play
526	507	92	VIVA	Missing		Encounters	In Dreams	Psychic Inv.	Judging Amy		Missing
269	350	93	APTN	Wings-Canada	Great Towns	Wapos Bay	Rez Rides	Fish Out	Caution: Nuts	Rabbit Fall	Moccasin Flats
-	-	94	MCP	(6:30) News	News	Matchmaker	Mom's-Upset	Il Caffe	In Germany	Euromaxx	Schauplatz
571	581	100	MMM	Listed		Celebrity Wrestling	Tommy Lee	Tommy Lee	Party of Five		Celeb Wrestle
570	580	101	MM	disBand	Technical Diff.	Degrassi: TNG	Instant Star	The Shift	Punk'd	Punk'd	Technical Diff.
581	566	102	MTV	The City	City Live After	Inaugural Ball	The administration's start. (N)	MTV Live	The Real World		Inaugural Ball

## critics'corner

### Wild Roses

The rivalry between the McGregors and the Henrys comes to the rodeo ring in this new episode. David learns that the daughter of a prospective supplier is entering a rodeo in which Kate is competing, and he asks his bull-riding son, Peter to train the young woman — bad news for Kate. Sarah Power also stars in "Friends and Rivals." 9 PM on CBRT



### Dreams of Obama

On the day that the United States inaugurates its 44th president — and its very first black president — this new documentary revisits Barack Obama's personal life and political achievements to date. Law-school classmates and associates from his days in Chicago politics are among those sharing their insights. 8 PM on CBC

### NCIS

That explains it — sort of. In this encore of the sixth-season premiere, Gibbs, still puzzled over Vance's (Rocky Carroll) decision to disband his team, is startled to discover it's connected to the murder of a naval petty officer. Michael Weatherly, David McCallum and Pauley Perrette also star in "Last Man Standing." 9 PM on CICT. KREM





Usmagazine.com is reporting Jessica Simpson will be a newlywed again. "An engagement is on the way," a source says in the new issue of Us Weekly. Simpson and her football beau, Tony Romo, are "getting there — and they will announce it when it happens." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Celebrity Buzz

# Winehouse good for St. Lucia, minister says

**TOURISM** Amy Winehouse has won an important fan in St. Lucia — the tourism minister, ananova.com reports. Allen Chastanet has praised the singer for bringing publicity to the Caribbean island.

While local reports have concentrated on the darker side of Winehouse's antics, it seems every picture of her smiling or mixing with the locals is a boost for the island, the website says.

Winehouse arrived in St. Lucia in December to stay at the luxury Le Sport re-

sort and local media have been following her around ever since. They have accused her of everything from throwing a drink on a tourist to being sick at breakfast.

But Chastanet disagrees and says his government has sent her a gift basket of local goods to thank her for the publicity.

In a competitive world, he said, "Any edge that you can get, you hang on to it."

The singer's rocky marriage and prob-



lems with drugs have been widely reported and it is believed she went to the island to help her recovery.

Winehouse has said that going to St. Lucia "has changed everything." She says

she's getting loads of exercise, eating brilliantly and has been able to relax.

The singer's husband Blake Fielder-Civil, who has been in and out of prison in recent months, filed for divorce from jail after seeing pictures of his wife with another man on the island.

St. Lucia can look forward to more publicity — with the troubled star saying she is having such a good time, she has no plans yet to return to the U.K.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Heche confirms it's a baby boy

**PREGNANT** Anne Heche is having a baby boy, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Nip/Tuck star has confirmed she is expecting a son with her partner, Nova Scotia native James Tupper, and is very excited by the news.

Heche — who has six-year-old son Homer from a previous relationship — sparked rumours about the sex of the baby earlier this month when she apparently couldn't keep the news under wraps.

A source said: "She told people she was having a boy. They were so excited to be picking things out for

a little boy."

Heche met actor Tupper on the set of her TV show Men in Trees in 2006 when she was still married to ex-husband Coleman Laffoon.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



# Road's 'twisted family'

**ON SET** Leonardo DiCaprio says starring in Revolutionary Road was like being in a "weird, twisted family," reports femalefirst.co.uk.

The 34-year-old actor — who reunited with Titanic co-star Kate Winslet in the new drama — insists filming love scenes with Kate felt "completely natural and comfortable," even though the actress' husband Sam Mendes directed the film.

Leonardo added Kate —

who won a Golden Globe Award for her role in the film — is no different from when they first worked together.

"She has not changed at all. She's one of the most real people I've ever met

and such a great friend. We've been support mechanisms for each other for a long period of time and will continue to be," he said.

Leonardo added both he and Kate are more "experienced" since they first appeared on the big screen together, which he believes helped them give such strong performances in Revolutionary Road.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



## Kelly arrested for alleged assault

**CHARGES** Turns out Kelly Osbourne was arrested earlier this month — for an incident that occurred in August. According to Sky Showbiz, British gossip columnist Zoe Griffin finally got around to pressing charges against Osbourne for assaulting her last summer. Griffin had raised Osbourne's ire by publicly ridiculing Osbourne's 19-year-old fashion model fiancé, Luke Worrall, for being a bit of a dim bulb — Griffin had written that Worrall admitted he didn't know what an earthquake was. Osbourne is out on bail pending a March court date, according to London police. Her rep had no comment.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



# Thurman's little yoga surprise

**FLIGHT** Uma Thurman stunned passengers by doing a yoga routine on a recent flight, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Hollywood star was travelling from New York's JFK Airport to Utah's Salt Lake City when she left her seat and began bending and stretching in front of shocked on-lookers, the website says.

A source told the New York Post newspaper: "Uma started doing yoga in the aisles. She used the flight-attendant station as a ballet barre, where she stretched and did plies for 20 minutes."

Most travellers

politely looked in another direction and put Thurman's antics down to a stringent fitness regime.

However, they were surprised to see the health-conscious 38-year-old star race off the plane when it landed and immediately light up a cigarette.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



# Snoop asks Madge, Becks for visa help

**FRIENDS** Snoop Dogg has reportedly begged Sir Paul McCartney and Madonna to help him get into the U.K., femalefirst.co.uk says.

The rap star — who has also called on soccer ace David Beckham to back his cause — wants his A-list friends to write to British Prime Minister Gordon Brown to insist he is granted a visa.

Snoop was arrested at London's Heathrow airport in April 2006 after his entourage vandalized a whiskey shop and attacked seven police officers when they were turned away from the first-

class lounge.

Snoop said: "I love London and I'm desperate to come back. I've called David Beckham, Sir Paul McCartney — hell, I want to get the whole of the Beatles to help me get back in."

"I'm trying to get through to Madonna as well. I'd love them all to write to the prime minister to change his mind."

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



# Knoxville accused of carrying fake grenade

**AIRPORT** TV prankster Johnny Knoxville was detained for allegedly bringing a fake grenade into an airport. Security screeners at Los Angeles International Airport detected the grenade in the Jackass star's hand luggage, ananova.com reports.

It was investigated by a bomb squad who found it did not have a firing pin or explosives. Knoxville told police that the grenade was a prop he forgot to remove from his bag, airport spokeswoman Nancy Castles said.

The 38-year-old, whose

real name is Philip John Clapp, was later released and allowed to board an American Airlines flight to Miami, the website adds.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



## Heidi, hubby go with Obama flow

**COUPLE** She may have given a very high-profile endorsement to John McCain during his 2008 presidential campaign, but Heidi Montag knows which way the political winds blow. The MTV reality star was spotted by TMZ out for a bike ride in Los Angeles with husband Spencer Pratt over the weekend — both sporting Barack Obama T-shirts.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



## Carrey parties with 50 Cent

**BIRTHDAY** While partying in Utah for the Sundance Film Festival, Jim Carrey got a very special birthday serenade from 50 Cent. The rapper invited the actor up on stage for a rendition of '50s hit It's Your Birthday, during which Carrey, whose 47th birthday was Saturday, reportedly showed off some impressive dancing skills. "Jim was lip-synching and bumping and grinding," a source told the New York Daily News. "It was pandemonium in the best way."

Chris Rock also joined the rapper onstage at one point.

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